

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05
L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 CTME-00 AID-05
SS-15 STR-05 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02
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USEEC

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TAGS: ETRD, GATT, UK, KS
SUBJECT: EC - UK IMPORT RESTRICTIONS ON KOREAN TELE-
VISIONS

REF: STATE 1827

1. THE EC-UK GATT ARTICLE XIX ACTION AGAINST KOREAN
MONOCHROME TELEVISION SETS TOOK EFFECT JULY 22, 1977.
ACTION WAS SELECTIVE IN THAT IT INVOLVED ONLY KOREA. A
QUOTA OF 35,000 UNITS WAS SET FOR CY 1977 AND THE SAME
NUMBER FOR CY 1978.

2. THE UK GOVERNMENT SOUGHT A VOLUNTARY RESTRAINT AGREE-
MENT WITH KOREA IN 1977 WHEN IT BECAME APPARENT THAT
IMPORTS FROM KOREA WERE INCREASING DRAMATICALLY. ACCORD-
ING TO OFFICIALS HERE, KOREANS MADE IT CLEAR THAT THEY
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WOULD NOT ENTER INTO SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT AT LEVELS PRO-
POSED BY THE UK.

3. IN REACHING DECISION TO SEEK ARTICLE XIX RELIEF
THROUGH EC COMMISSION, UK GOVERNMENT DID NOT USE HIGHLY
FORMALIZED PROCEDURES IN THE SENSE OF HOLDING PUBLIC
HEARINGS, OFFERING APPEAL PROCEDURES, ETC. HOWEVER, ITS

INTERNAL REGULATIONS APPEAR TO HAVE INCLUDED A REASONABLE
PROCEDURE OF EXAMINING IMPORT PENETRATION LEVELS, RATES
OF INCREASE AND ESTABLISHMENT OF INJURY TO DOMESTIC PRO-
DUCERS.

4. IN THIS SPECIFIC CASE, THE UK SITUATION WAS FAIRLY
CLEAR. THE BRITISH DOMESTIC INDUSTRY HAS BEEN SUBJECT
TO INCREASING DIFFICULTIES IN RECENT YEARS, PARTIALLY
DUE TO IMPORTS. THEN, IN 1977, IMPORTS OF KOREAN MONO-
CHROME SETS INCREASED 2,600 PERCENT, FROM 0.3 PERCENT OF
THE B/W IMPORTS IN 1976 TO 11 PERCENT OF THE MAR-
KET IN 1977.

5. FOLLOWING IS SPECIFIC DATA REQUESTED REFTEL ON UK
IMPORTS OF MONOCHROME T.V. SETS:

YEAR	TOTAL MONOCHROME IMPORTS	FROM KOREA	KOREAN PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL
1974	241,368	NIL	0.0
1975	433,344	1,002	0.2
1976	548,191	2,143	0.3
1977(JAN-OCT)	457,235	52,000	11.3

NOTE: APPROXIMATELY 44,000 SETS WERE IMPORTED IN PERIOD
BETWEEN JULY AND OCTOBER OF 1977.

6. 1977 EXCESS OVER 35,000 UNIT QUOTA WILL BE CHARGED
AGAINST 1978 QUOTA.
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BREWSTER

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